

REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are all the claims pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Inoue et al. (U.S. Pub. 2001/0011373) in view of Kondo et al. (U.S. Patent 6,763,522).

Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Claims 1, 3, 6, and 11

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia* (emphasis added):

(b) whenever a selected channel number is selected from among the N channel numbers for which the EPG information is displayed, tuning the selected channel number and updating *only* EPG information corresponding to the selected channel number.

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of Inoue and Kondo neither teaches nor suggests this claimed feature. This is because neither Inoue nor Kondo, taken alone or in combination, discloses “whenever a selected channel number is selected...updating *only* EPG information corresponding to the selected channel number.”

Kondo is directed to a system and method for providing an electronic program guide (EPG) for broadcasted digital television. *See* Kondo, Abstract. Kondo discloses how the system operates when the EPG information is displayed on the television. Specifically, as illustrated at steps 127 and 128 in Figure 5 of Kondo, the system polls “for new channel selection detection.” *See* Kondo, col. 11, ll. 58-61. If the system detects a new minor channel selection, the system processes and displays the audio and video of the newly selected minor channel. *See* Kondo, col. 11, l. 66 - col. 12, l. 4. On the other hand, if the system detects a new major channel, “the

processor retrieves the newly selected major channel's broadcast frequency from memory, and instructs the tuner to tune to that frequency. The system then repeats the process of FIG. 4 beginning with step 109. See Kondo, col. 12, ll. 5-9.

Kondo discloses that digital television (DTV) broadcasts transport 3 to 4 DTV channels "in a single, digital-signal transport stream." See Kondo, col. 1, ll. 39-54. The transport stream de-multiplexer 12 separates the digital data stream packets from the transport stream to provide elementary digital data signals including audio streams 13, video streams 14, and program and system information (PSI) 15 streams. See Kondo, col. 2, ll. 26-33, col. 5, ll. 23-30. The PSI streams 15 include tables that provide EPG data for channels carried in the transport stream. See Kondo, col. 2, ll. 26-40. Accordingly, Kondo discloses that the transport stream contains plural DTV channels and PSI information for "channels in the transport stream."

In Kondo, when a user selects a new major channel, the system "reads the current version of the VCT [] from the currently broadcasting MGT as provided by the transport stream de-multiplexer at step 109." See Kondo, col. 10, l. 63 - col. 11, l. 1. Specifically, the system analyzes version numbers in a Master Guide Table (MGT) (see Kondo, col. 10, ll. 1-12) to determine whether minor channels in a Virtual Channel Table (VCT) (see Kondo, col. 9, ll. 1-12) associated with a major channel (see Kondo, col. 10, ll. 43-48) change, determine whether events or messages for minor channels of the VCT in an Event Information Table (EIT) (see Kondo, col. 9, ll. 16-18) change, and determine whether information on television programs associated with each of the minor channels of the VCT in an Extended Text Table (ETT) (see Kondo, col. 9, ll. 18-20) change.

However, Kondo also discloses that the system “checks the MGT to determine if additional VCTs are present in the transport stream. If so, then steps 109 through 114 are repeated for the next VCT.” See Kondo, col. 11, ll. 7-17. Similarly, as noted above, Kondo discloses that information for every EIT and ETT in the transport stream is updated. Therefore, Kondo makes clear that EPG information in every VCT, EIT, and ETT for every channel in the transport stream is updated.

As discussed above, Kondo discloses that 3 to 4 DTV channels and PSI information for each DTV channel is included in the transport stream, and the PSI information is defined by the VCTs, EITs, and ETTs. Accordingly, whenever a new major channel is selected in Kondo, the system updates EPG information for each DTV channel using the VCTs, EITs, and ETTs in the transport stream.

Accordingly, at best, Kondo discloses two options for updating the EPG information when a channel is changed: 1) if the selected channel number is a minor channel, the system simply displays the audio and video of the newly selected minor channel; and 2) if the channel number is a major channel, the system updates EPG information for all the major channels and all their associated minor channels in the transport stream. There is no teaching or suggestion of “updating only EPG information corresponding to the selected channel number.” Rather, in Kondo, if the selected channel number is a minor channel, no updating is performed, and if the selected channel number is a major channel, updating of all the major channels and all the minor channels in the transport stream is performed.

To the extent the Examiner does point out sections of Kondo which disclose “update[ing] the program and system information of the newly selected channel prior to displaying the

updated EPG,” (col. 7, 60-67) and “[o]nce an alternate channel is selected, the system tunes to the broadcast frequency of the selected channel, and the EPG of the system displays only updated program and system information for that channel” (col. 12, lines 35-38), Applicant respectfully submits that the Examiner has mischaracterized Kondo as teaching “updating only EPG information corresponding to the selected channel number.” As discussed above, displaying “only updated information” is accomplished by updating EPG information for DTV channels in the transport stream when a new major channel is selected. That is to say, the system displays “only updated information,” *as opposed to out-of-date information*. The disclosures cited by the Examiner do not state that only the EPG information for a selected channel is updated. Rather, Kondo discloses displaying only the updated program and system information, but to achieve this feature Kondo discloses updating EPG information for plural channels in the transport stream.

As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that Kondo fails to teach or suggest “whenever a selected channel number is selected...updating only EPG information corresponding to the selected channel number,” as recited in claim 1. At page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner concedes that Inoue fails to teach or suggest this claimed feature. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that, even if Inoue and Kondo could have somehow been combined, claim 1 and its dependent claims would not have been rendered unpatentable by the combination of Inoue and Kondo for at least these reasons.

To the extent independent claims 3, 6, and 11 recite features similar to those discussed above recited in claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3, 6, 11, and their dependent claims also would not have been rendered unpatentable by the combination of Inoue and Kondo for reasons analogous to those discussed above regarding claim 1.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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